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PARKER, A. J. *Insurance law of New York, being chapter 28 of the consolidated laws and chapter 33 of 1909, including all amendments of 1920, with notes and annotations.* (New York: Banks Law Pub. Co. 1920. Pp. 1, 516.)

*Indiana workmen's compensation act and decisions of the Industrial Board, with references to negligence and compensation cases annotated.* (Chicago: Callaghan. 1920. Pp. 1147-1218.)

*New York state workmen's compensation law, with amendments, additions, and annotations to August 1, 1920.* (Albany: Bureau of Statistics and Information. 1920. Pp. 114.)

*Proceedings of the fiftieth session, National Convention of Insurance Commissioners.* (Richmond, Va.: J. Button, Sec.-Treas. 1919. Pp. xi, 326.)

*Proceedings of the fifty-fourth annual meeting of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.* (New York: National Board of Fire Underwriters, 76 William St. 1920. Pp. 173.)

*Workmen's compensation law of Maryland, revised, with amendments effective June 1, 1920; of New York, revised with amendments, May, 1920; of Virginia, revised with amendments, April, 1920, amendments effective July 1, 1920.* (New York: F. R. Jones, 80 Maiden Lane. 1920. Pp. 48; 93; 36.)

*Workmen's compensation supplement to department reports of Pennsylvania containing rulings and opinions . . . during the year 1919.* (Harrisburg. 1920. Pp. 580.)

## Pauperism, Charities, and Relief Measures

### NEW BOOKS

DAVIS, K. B. *Study of women delinquents in New York state.* (New York: Century. 1920.)

LLOYD, C. M. *The present state of the poor law.* (London: Labour Party, 33 Eccleston Sq. 1920. Pp. 8. 2d.)

*Canada's work for disabled soldiers.* (Ottawa: Dept. of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment. 1920. Pp. 149.)

*Proceedings of the New York City conference of charities and correction, 1919.* (New York. 1920. Pp. 220.)

## Socialism and Co-operative Enterprises

*National Guilds and the State.* By S. G. HOBSON. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1920. Pp. 406.)

This study marks a distinct advance in our knowledge of guild proposals. Through sixteen chapters divided into two parts—

The Producer, Consumer, and the State; and The Transition—we have an illuminating analysis of the state over against those functional bodies which challenge every known conception of state sovereignty and boldly propose a partnership with a division of powers. The sprightly tilt of the author against Mr. Cole over the meaning of “the state” shows still more clearly what differences of opinion and interpretation are developing among guild advocates. It marks an epoch that guild theory at several points now passes into practice. Beyond Utopian expectations, the New Guild is now at grips with very sobering practical difficulties. In the half dozen volumes of Mr. Cole, we have the theoretic aspiration stated at its best, without a dull page, but with occasional acrid personalities (as against the Webbs) which one regrets. This writer easily leads in exposition of the new movement. As with Mr. Penty, there are no super-enthusiasms over medieval organization; not the artistic but the harder economic possibilities hold Mr. Cole’s attention.

The author of the present study, Mr. S. G. Hobson, is severely concerned with economics and especially with the state in relation to guild development. Of a previous study by this writer the *London Nation* said: “His analysis of the wage system and its effect on national character is masterly and incisive.” The *Manchester Guardian* which has given close attention to the movement calls it “quite the best brief exposition of this school of reform.” Mr. Hobson’s practical official relation to the Guild gives him added authority. As no writer, he shows how the purely industrial relations are one by one withdrawn from the state and distributed among the guilds. These are to be the main functional body with a subdued partnership on the part of the state. Throughout, the driving force is the trade union. No exposition has made it clearer than Mr. Hobson’s that organized labor has the heavy task of giving practical effect to the guild idea. The chief work of the intellectuals is that of persuasion. They have also to convince governments and local authorities. Throughout, the practical obstacles have been the hesitations of government and local municipal authorities. Private contractors are held by specific guaranties and can be sued in the courts for non-fulfilment of contract. Can the guild, as now organized, be held to these responsibilities? With all the fine phrases about substituting the “motive of free service” for that of private profits, can the city count on ardors so refined? The Building Guild asks a commis-

sion of 10 per cent on cost of structures; what guaranty is there that they would not strike for higher wages and thus for a higher commission? Doubts such as these have long delayed many a plan in its paper stage. Now that a Yorkshire town (Halifax) has actually entered upon a tentative scheme "to see on a small scale if the Guild can make good," the period of mere theoretic criticism has perhaps passed. A compromise has also just been made between the Ministry of Health and the Manchester Guild. We read: "The compromise, by combining the principle of lump sum per house with that of a percentage on costs, secures both that it shall be to the interest of the guild to build as cheaply as it can and that a return sufficient to secure continuous employment to the guild operative, as against casual work, is assured." That the powerful financial organization, the Coöperative Wholesale, has backed the scheme by assuming insurance and furnishing building material gives confidence both to the public and to the guild.

An encouraging article in the most recent issue (at this writing) of the *Manchester Guardian* closes with the words: "Even those who were not at first favourable to the guild idea, and were profoundly sceptical as to its practicability, are said to be impressed by the fine spirit with which the men are entering into their work." The wide and keen interest excited by the guild idea is due largely to a growing conviction that "labor" will never again give the essential energy to production without such changes in the capitalistic sanctities as to convince the wage-earner that in some definite sense he is an acknowledged partner in the industrial process. Both sentimentally and practically the guild offers him this chance as it offers "social authorities" an opportunity without grave risk to meet the labor challenge.

JOHN GRAHAM BROOKS.

*The Limits of Socialism.* By O. FRED BOUCKE. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1920. Pp. 259. \$1.50.)

The dual character of socialism, as a theory of social evolution and a social ideal, naturally suggests the double question as to the residue of truth in the theory after the destructive criticism of enemies and friends, and the extent to which the hopes of socialists might be realized if their program were put into operation under favorable circumstances. These are apparently the "limits" which the author has in mind, although there is a certain ambig-